

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 L-03 /065 W
-----036954 190353Z /61

R 181242Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1868
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS PARIS 33745

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY, USMTN ALSO FOR USMISSION

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR ITP DIV.

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR/FR
SUBJECT: DEBATISSE PRESS CONFERENCE

IN A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN ON NOVEMBER 15, FOLLOWING
MEETING WITH EC AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH,
MICHEL DEBATISSE, PRESIDENT OF MAJOR FRENCH FARM ORGANIZA-
TION, F.N.S.E.A., MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

- FRENCH FARMERS ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO DEFICIENCY PAY-
MENTS AND TO SUBSIDIZING OF CONSUMPTION OF SOME FOOD
PRODUCTS SUCH AS BUTTER.

- GIVEN THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE CORRESPONSIBILITY TAX ON
MILK, FRENCH FARMERS EXPECT THAT THIS TAX RAISED FUND BE
USED TO CONQUER NEW OUTLETS FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS.

- FRANCE HOPES TO HAVE QUOTE MORE BALANCED RELATIONSHIPS
UNQUOTE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND WOULD REACT TO ANY
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U.S. DECISIONS HAMPERING EC-LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY. THIS IS
TO SAY THAT THE AGRICULTURAL TRADE BALANCE IS TOO MUCH
IN FAVOR OF THE UNITED STATES, THAT FRENCH DAIRYMEN WANT
MORE ACCESS TO THE U.S. MARKET, AND THAT A RESTRICTION ON
MEAT IMPORTS BY THE UNITED STATES WOULD MEET A STRONG EC
REACTION. HE ALSO SAID THAT IT IS IN THE U.S. INTEREST
FOR THE EC TO HAVE STRONG LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, MEANING IT

IS GOOD FOR U.S. FEED INGREDIENT EXPORTS.

- COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE SEARCHED FOR BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EEC (FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS MAINLY)

- AN EC POLICY FOR FATS AND OILS IS NEEDED AND FRENCH FARMERS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT CONTRARY TO TAKING EC PROTEIN DEFICIT FOR GRANTED AS PREVIOUSLY, EC AUTHORITIES NOW DEEM THAT IT IS A GAP TO BRIDGE.

- MCA'S SHOULD BE DISMANTLED IN THREE YEARS, INSTEAD OF SEVEN YEARS AS CONTEMPLATED BY THE EC COMMISSION.

- FRENCH FARMERS EXPECT THAT THREE NEW CANDIDATES FOR THE ENTRY INTO THE EEC WILL RESPECT DISCIPLINE OF REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO WINE, FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN THE TRANSITIONARY PERIOD PRIOR TO THEIR ACCESS INTO THE COMMUNITY. THEY PROPOSE THAT CONTRACT PRICES WITH THESE COUNTRIES NOT BE LOWER THAN EC-INTERVENTION PRICES FOR WINE AND WITHDRAWAL PRICES FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, ADJUSTED FOR TRANSPORTATION COSTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS33745
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770429-0158
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771142/aaaabje.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96f0c216-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 532013
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEBATISSE PRESS CONFERENCE IN A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN ON NOVEMBER 15, FOLLOWING MEETING WITH EC AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER GUNDELAC
TAGS: EAGR, FR, FNSEA, (DEBATISSE, MICHEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96f0c216-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009